



*Transportation accounts for 38% of carbon dioxide emissions in New England.*



*The Northeast Climate Impacts Assessment shows that today's energy choices will determine our future climate.*



*CSNE require collaboration among a wide range of stakeholders in the region.*



*Wind turbine in Hull, MA.*

# CARBON SOLUTIONS NEW ENGLAND™

## Collaboration for a Low Carbon Society



UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE

### What is Carbon Solutions New England™?

Carbon Solutions New England™ (CSNE) is a public-private partnership to promote collective action to achieve a clean, secure energy future. A common set of regional indicators and milestones is required to provide decision relevant information for a diverse set of stakeholders to coordinate action and track progress. To address this need, we will develop a web accessible and open source *New England Carbon Index* and related databases that provide credible information on our progress towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This information provides a common reference point for policy makers, business, the media, non-profits, and educators. A collaborative process of focused working groups, annual assessments, and bi-annual summits will sustain dialog and coordinate action across sectors and institutions.

### Regional Action is Required . . . .

Scientific evidence is clear that we must achieve an urgent and unprecedented level of carbon dioxide emission reduction over the next decade to begin to stabilize our climate system. Achieving significant emission reductions while sustaining our quality of life requires a transformational response. Our goal is to unite leaders from the public, private, and non-profit sectors to collaborate at an entirely new level to build a low carbon society while sustaining our unique natural and cultural resources. New England is uniquely positioned to demonstrate an effective regional response by focusing our substantial entrepreneurial and intellectual resources on this issue.

### Who Will be Involved?

The transformational change required to build a low carbon society demands collaboration among a wide range of stake-holders including the private sector, government, non-profits, churches, and universities. Leaders from these sectors will join a collaborative learning community that will benefit all participants by producing products that are publicly accessible, transparent in purpose, method and reasoning, and valuable for creative problem solving. Participants will also benefit from a process focused on learning and innovation that adds value to both individual and collective goals while pursuing a long-term public good.

### Work Plan

CSNE has already secured seed funding from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation to build our lead partnership network and conduct a series of rapid appraisals of the region's carbon cycle, the potential for renewable energy, and existing institutions and initiatives working towards a low carbon society. These efforts will form the foundation for future, more detailed analyses:

1. **Carbon Cycle:** Develop an integrated, web accessible computer model of New England's carbon cycle. This will provide the foundation to assess the impact on our environment and economy of alternative strategies and to reduce net emissions.
2. **Potential for Renewable Energy:** Assess the natural, technological, and economic potential for renewable energy and quantify the economic impact of policies to reduce net carbon dioxide emissions.
3. **Institutions:** Develop a web accessible multi-sectoral appraisal of New England's business and social institutions that are currently active in the area of regional energy and climate policy and action.
4. **Energy Technologies:** Analyze existing and emerging low carbon and energy efficient technologies in New England.

**More info at: [www.CarbonSolutionsNE.org](http://www.CarbonSolutionsNE.org)**

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